XP 002153448

AN - 1982-58067E [28]

A - [001] 013 02& 038 143 144 151 155 163 166 169 170 171 173 30& 32& 33& 398 447 481 484 50& 512 516 522 575 577 579 597 600 601

AP - JP19800165011 19801124

CPY - KURS

DC - A23 A32 F01

FS - CPI

IC - D01D5/24; D01F8/14

KS - 0004 0016 0226 1291 1319 1323 1462 2471 2486 2525 2529 2559 2594 2640 2643 2660 3178 3179 3226

MC - A05-E04E A07-A03 A12-S05B A12-S05C F01-D04 F01-E01A

PA - (KURS) KURARAY CO LTD

PN - JP57089617 A 19820604 DW198228 007pp

- JP62019525B B 19870430 DW198721 000pp

PR - JP19800165011 19801124

XIC - D01D-005/24; D01F-008/14

AB - J57089617 The conjugate fibre is of non-xoaxial type consisting of polymer A contg. at least 85 wt.% of polyethylene terephthalate and polymer B contg. at least 85 wt.% of polytetramethylene terephthalate. Polymer B assumes reversible alpha-beta crystalline structure under relaxation and stretching treatments and it is located inside the spiral of crimp.

- The limiting viscosity numbers of A and B (x and z respectively) satisfy the following equations. y is 0.248z + 0.218 to 0.80 z is

0.7-1.35, where y= z-x.

- The spinning is done at 800 to 4000 m/min. and spun fibre is drawn at the following draw ratio so that polymer B may have double refractive index of at least 120 x 10 power -3.
- HD is 0.9 x (HD)B to 1.2 x (HD)B
- where (HD)B is the maximum draw ratio when polymer B is spun under the same condition. Best method is to effect spining at 4000 to 10000

- Self-crimping conjugate fibre with excellent crimping and dyeing properties is obtained.

IW - SELF CRIMP CONJUGATE NON COAXIAL TYPE FIBRE COMPRISE POLYMER CONTAIN POLYETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE POLYMER CONTAIN POLY TETRA METHYLENE

IKW - SELF CRIMP CONJUGATE NON COAXIAL TYPE FIBRE COMPRISE POLYMER CONTAIN POLYETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE POLYMER CONTAIN POLY TETRA METHYLENE **TEREPHTHALATE**

NC - 001

OPD - 1980-11-24

ORD - 1982-06-04

PAW - (KURS) KURARAY CO LTD

TI - Self crimping conjugate non coaxial type fibre - comprises polymer contg. polyethylene terephthalate and polymer contg. poly:tetra:methylene terephthalate

(19 日本国特許庁 (JP)

①特許出願公開

⑩公開特許公報(A)

昭57-89617

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発明の数 2 審査請求 未請求

(全 7 頁)

60複合繊維およびその製造法

者

②特

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@発明

中川潤洋 倉敷市水江1505-5

@発明者

赤木孝夫

倉敷市酒津1652-2

@発 明 者 平川清司

倉敷市日ノ出町 2 - 4 -41

@発 明 者 秋山昭次

倉敷市酒津1621

⑪出 願 人 株式会社クラレ

倉敷市酒津1621番地

⑩代 理 人 弁理士 本多堅

нуј #Ш [№]

1. 発明の名称

復合観機およびその製造法

- 2 特許闘求の範囲
- (2) 85 重 室 然 以 上 が ポ リエチ レンテレ フタレートで ある 重 台 体 A と、 85 重 監 % 以 上 が ポ リテト ラメチ レンテレフタレート で ある 里 合 体 B の 極 版 粘 皮 〔 5〕が 次 式

 $0.248 + 0.128 \le y \le 0.80$ $0.7 \le z \le 1.55$

(ただし、エは近台体Bの(ヵ)。!は飯合体 Aの〔ヵ〕をxとするとき!=ェースとして定 義されるものである。)

を确定する出合体 A および B を H い、 电合体 B の 複 田 折 平 4 n a か 1 2 0 × 1 0 - 3 以上となるように幅心複合紡糸または幅心複合紡糸についで延伸することを特徴とする 当 飯 職 粧 の 蛇 殿 三 緊 般 処 埋 に より 里 合体 B が α = ≠ の 結晶 構造を 可 型 的 に と り、 か つ 里 合体 B か ク リンプ 螺 旋 の 内 は に 位 直 し て い る 自 己 搭 都 性 複 合 縁 稚 の 製 造 法。
(3) 特許 蘭 求 の 範 朋 2 に お い て 、 紡 糸 速 甘 か 8 0 0 ~ 4 , 0 0 0 m / m i n で あ り 、 待 ら れ た 未 述 伸 糸 を 次 式 で 小 す 延 伸 倍 率 日 D で 鉱 仰 す る こ と を 特 数

. U_1 9 \times (H D) $_B$ \leq H D \leq 1, 2 \times (H D) $_B$

(たたし、 (HU)。は風合体 Bを同一条件で析 糸したときの敬大性伸倍率である。)

とする目己密船伍後台級権の製造法。

- (4) 特許謝求の顧問 2 において、紡糸速度が 4,000~10,000×/min であることを特徴 とする自己機能性複合機能の製造法。
- 3. 発明の詳細な説明

本発明は、揺船性の良好なポリエステル来自己

持開昭57-89617(2)

形脳性複合繊維に関するものであり、より詳しくは、ポリエチレンテレフタレートを主成分とする 重合体と、ポリテトラメチレンテレフタレートを 主成分とする重合体との偏心複合紡糸繊維に関す るものである。

世来、ホリエチレンテレフタレート系座台体の
関心複合紡糸に関する研究は非常に多い。しかし、ホリエチレンテレフタレート(PBT)に関する
複合繊維の研究は少なく、十分な性能を発揮する
条件は見い出されていなかった。例えば、特別の
場では見い出されていなかった。例えば、FBT
の偏心複合繊維をも33m/minで紡糸し4.216
倍能伸し、PBTを安定な強緩型結晶形態(4型)にさせると、結晶化により無定形部分の配向なり、 にさせると、結晶化により無定形部分の配向なりリンプが発生するとが示されている。 条件にの 知りが発生する を験させないすべての 条件 ドボンフが発生する を験させないすべての 条件 ドボ ことの との といことを 意味し不安

本 発明によれば、 8 5 山 量 多 以上が P を T で ある 風合 体 A と 8 5 重 量 多 か P は T で ある 風台 体 B と か 6 なる 偏心 複合 繊維で あり 蚰蜒 章 緊張 処理 により、 風合体 B の結晶 形態 が α ⇒ β の転移を 可逆的に とり、 かつ 異合体 B が クリンプ 撃旋の 内側 に 似 殴 し ていること を特徴とする自己 揺縮 伝 複合 敬 維 で ある。

本発明に言う85厘歳%以上がポリエチレンテ

本発明に言う a 型および P 烈菇島構造とは、 X 機構造解析による繊維周期(F P)を御定することにより決定される。 例えば は、 Tadokoro らの設告 — Macromolecules 9, 266 (1976)。 Polymer, preprints . Japan , 28 1958 (1979) — によれば、 a 構造の F P は 1 1.5 9 Å、 F 傳告の F P は 1 5.0 7 Åである。

本発明に旨う強殺、緊張状態とは、外力が作用 しておらず揺鞴が顕在化している状態を弛緩、揺 稲が伸びたところからる~10%伸張した状態を 緊張と言い、その繰返し処理によつてPBT·の結 晶構造も可逆的にα⇒β型の変化をすることを質 う。 ここで、 結晶構造の α = β の可逆的変化は不 連続別に生ずるのではなく、他段は緊張処理によ つてαとβ構造の割合が連続的に変化し、弛緩状 販ではα構造がリッチになり、緊張処理ではβ構 造かりッチになる。 X 級回折法により、 a 構造と 卢旃遊を定性的に雌秘することができる。まず、 繊維軸をメ歌ビームに垂直になるように繊維の平 行な氷を試料口に取りつけ、平板フィルムを設置 した広角X線回折カメラにより繊維凶を掻映し、 子午線に曳われる(「04)面の回折点の位置を 朗定することにより谷田に行なうことができる。 子午線上の回折点の中心からの距離(ℓ)は次式 より算出される。

 $\ell = R \tan 2\theta$ $\theta = \sin^{-1}(\frac{\lambda}{2d})$

特原昭57-89617(3)

低し、Rは試料とフィルム間の距離、 A は使用した X 線の皮投、 d は (〒 0 4) 面の面間隔、 B は Bragg 角である。

なお、PBTとPETの複合歌組のX線による 歌組図は、PBTとPETの回折点が一部重なる ので、その解析には熟練を要する。

本発明における a、 p 構造の解析を行なうに際して、より簡単に a . p 結晶の 菌を比較するには、赤外線吸収スペクトル解析により行なうことができる。 1. M. Ward らの報告 - Polymer, 18,327 (1977) - によれは、 a 構造に起因する 吸収は 752 cm⁻¹、910 cm⁻¹ および 1450~1460 cm⁻¹ に現われ、 p 構造に起因する 吸収は 8 4 5 cm⁻¹. 960 cm⁻¹ および 1470 cm⁻¹ に現われる。従つて、 地観状態と緊張状態との赤外吸収スペクトルの吸収ヒークを比較することにより、 a = p の結晶構造の変化を容易に知ることができる。

本発明の複合繊維は、弛緩 m 繋 設 処 埋により、 螺旋揺鞴の内側に位置している P B T の 結晶 構造 が a = メの 結晶 転移を生じる。 すなわち、 揺 稲を 伸はして緊張状態にすると β 構造に変化するが、 緊張を解き廻殿状態にすると、より安定な α 構造 に変化し、このとき約 1 3 %分子鎖が縮む。しか も、この変化は可逆的に生ずるため、 本発明の敏 軽は従来とは全く異なった酸構により、 看しく良 好な伸縮性を有するものとなる。

本発明における上述の如き結晶構造が可逆的に α ≠ μ の変化を行なう 繊維を得るには、次の方法 によっことができる。

単台体 A と 単合体 B は、公知の方法で幅心複合 初糸される。幅心複合被離とは、例えば第1 図に ボナ 別き 単心において点対称となつていない 級能 を言いれると B の 幽 散 散 度 (〔 7 〕 こ フェノールとテトラクロルエタンの 等 就 昆合 解 蝶 を 用い、 o し で 低 温 個中で ウッペローデ 型 結 便 計 で 測 定)を それ ぞれ ェ、スとし、 その 差を リーュー まとす るとき、次式

0, 2 4 8 z + 0, 1 2 8 $\leq y \leq 0$, 8 0 0, 7 $\leq z \leq$ 1, 3 5

を觸足し、血合体 B の複屈折率 4 a m を 1 2 0 ×1 0⁻³ 以上とすることにより得られる。

一般に複合概律のしゅ〕は购成分の異菌平均的 餌となり、各成分の杤糸使の〔1〕を知ることは 難かしいので、あらかじめ同一条件で単成分を紡 糸し、紡糸条件と〔1〕の低下半の関係を求めて おく必数かある。本発明の破雑を得るに際して、 A. B山成分の極限粘度の差yが上式より小さい **船台は、特開出51-84924号公報に記載され** ている別く紡糸口金直下での折れ曲り(ニーイン ク)は小さいか、本発明のα=μの転移構造か生 じ難く、また她伸のみで良好な簡新性能のものは 付られない。本発明に言う弛峻二繁張により4= **卢晶晶転移を容易に生する歌雑を得るためには、** 业合体Bの1nを120×10⁻¹以上とすることが 必象であり、より好ましいのは一時的(脾時)に 高度に配问させてほぼ完全なグ型結晶構造を圧た のち強殺状態にするてとである。この場合、強酸 状態ではより完全なα型構造をとるが、強殺≠緊 **最処態によるロニタの転移はより生じやすい。**

本発期にかかる繊維を得るに際して、紡糸速度 (紡選) は 8 0 0 m / min 以上が必要であり、それ 以下では本発明に言うα⇒≠の転移が容易に生じ る樹造の繊維は併られない。紡糸速度が800~ 4,0 U O m/min では断糸のみで d n m ≥ 120 × 10~゜のものは付られ難いので、延伸することが 好ましい。処伸は、紡糸後ポピンに巻取ったのち に行なつても粉糸直粘贴伸を行なつてもよい。と てで、鉱伸倍率は前述した如ぐ一時的により完全 な卢函道をとらせる意味で重要であり、従来の常 識とは全く異なつた条件をとる必要かある。すな わら、単台体Bのみを同一条件で勧采したときに 付られる未姓伸糸の最大抵伸倍率(切断点までの 些伸倍率)を〔HD)。とするとき、複合繊維の些 伸倍率 (H D) は O, 9 X (H D) o ≤ H D ≤ 1, 2 X (リリ)。で行なうことが好ましい(この倍率は、 単独観雑なら仮断するような条件である)。との とき、単合体B(PBT)結晶は瞬時にほぼ完全 など構造を経ることになる。延伸温度は高いほう が好ましく、延伸後巻取りあるいは弛緩処理後に

移収つてもよい。

本発明の財産を付るのに厳も対ましい設置方法は、上配の異合体もとりを機心複合し、それを4.000~10.000m/minで紡糸することである。
従来、関心復合無難を動改紡糸すると、第2囚に
ですようにA.B 四風合体の分子配向かぬくなり、
でのだか小となるために細糖性能は劣り、格圧特
が敏性を得る方法として対ましくないと考えられ
ていた。しかし、本発明の早BT-PET糸の複合無能においては、先述した理由により、PBT
の結婚項かよりの一方の転移が生じやすくなる
ためには速であればあるほどより溶解性能が良好
になる。第3回にPETとPBTを単独に紡糸し
ための自然収縮率(巻取った後、フリーの状態にしたときの収縮率)を示す。

P B T は自然収 断率 が 新糸速度の上昇とともに 非常に大きくなり、 P B T との差が 増加する。 そ のため、 両省を風心複合紡糸した場合、 紡速 2.500 m / min 以上から紡糸しただけでクリンプ が出ばじめ、 4.000 m / min 以上では鉱伸の必要

ド B T の結晶構造の可迎的な α = ρ紅杉に起因するものであるから神性回復の若しく優れたものである。 新糸谷取り肌のゴデットローラーあるいはブレート帯で室温以上、 歴点以下の熱を与えることは、 揺縦性能をより好ましく する働きがある。 本発明の繊維は、フィラメントおよびステーブルファイバーいずれの状態でも使用することができ、 観初、 減物、 不総布、カーペット、 短具用ど

以下実施例によって本発明を説明する。

して用いることかできる。

以下余白

のない自己溶解性複合繊維となる。この自然収縮は、参取時の繁盤状態にあるが製結晶構造からつり一な状態(強緩状態)にすることにより の型結晶構造に変化することにより起るものと考えられ、より高速度で紡糸したほうが強緩状態にしたときにより完全な a 型結晶構造をとるものほど、再繁盤(1~10%件及)でが型結晶構造になりやすく、 a = p の転移が生じやすい。

本発明の複合複雑は非常に良好な機能性能を有し、しかも染色性が著しく良好なものとなる。本発明に置う染色性良好とは、通常の分散染料(Eastman Polyester Navy Blue 3 k-LSW) 3 m owf. 俗比1: 5 0 で、9 8 C o 0 分染色したときの染着率(DI)か 8 0 %以上であることを買う。

PETとPBTの複合繊維が紡速 4.0 U 0 m/min 以上で延伸不要にして自己搭縮性繊維となり、し かも常圧染色が可能な高染色性を示すということ は全く驚くべきことであり、しかもこの接端は、

実施例1

A 成分として [カ] = 0.53 の P E T, B 成分として [カ] = 1.2 の P B T を 1:1 の 割合でサイド ハイサイド型で 複合紡糸を行つた。 紡糸温度は 275 C とし、 1.200 m/inin で紡糸して 150 d/2 af の未延伸糸を得た。 一万、 前一紡糸条件で B 取分のみを紡糸し、 150 d/2 4f の未延伸糸を得・ 竣大 延伸倍率 [HD]n および Ana を 制定したところ、 (HD)n = 2.8, Ana = 8 U × 10⁻³ で あつた。 そして、この未延伸糸を 切断 値削まで伸ばしたと さ (HD = 2.8)の An は 140×10⁻³ で あつた。 ついで、 削 記の複合紡糸未延伸糸を 2.8 倍 (すなわち 1i D = (HD)n)の 延伸倍率で、 予熱 福度 7 8 で,フレート 温度 140 C で 延伸した。

初られた繊維について以下に亦す舵縮性(Ki, Ki, Ki)の評価を行なつた。

0.059/1の扱力で 5,006d (片側 2,500d)の カセをつくる。カセ作製後に 5 g の初端異をかけ 5 分後にカセの長さぬを側定する。ついで初荷菓 をかけたまま軽度の燃をかけ水でのらした彼、90

(特別昭57-89617(5)

Cの熱水中に耐消し 3 0 分間処理する。浸度完了 後に初尚虫を解却し、所して自然免嫌したのち初 尚虫 (5 9)をかけかせの長されを側定する。 欠 に 5 0 0 9 の 世尚虫をかけ 3 U 秒後にかせの長き & を測定する。 主母虫を除却役に初母虫をかけ 3 U 秒後にかせの長されを測定する。 ついで独労尚重 3,5 0 0 9 を 3 0 秒間 加え、被労尚重を除却後に切 尚虫下で 5 分間放磁後にかせの長されを側でする。 Ki、Ki、Kiはそれぞれ次式で与えられる。

脚定結果は K1 = 46.0%, K2 = 44.5%, K1 = 45.9% であり、 国台体 B がクリンプ 繋 廊の内側にあり、 複合磁雑からなる延伸系としては全く 煎くべき B 増稲性を示した。

比較のため従来のデータを示すと、特公出43-19108号公報実施例7のW-CにおけるPBT-PET の複合繊維はNI値に相当するCD(クリンプ発現度)は19%であり、掲編発現の焼なまし処

丧

ſ		HD/(HD)#	₫n∍	ブレー ト位度 (で)	Kı -	X進因の(『04)近の間折点強度					
	.\					`St == 0		St = 5			
						在表面	8 概数	~新政	8 8 25		
ľ	安施併2	1.0 0	150×10 ⁻³	1 2 0	4 2.3	ф	q,	4	* .		
	" 3	1.0,0	140×10 ⁻³	200	6 0.9	*	Α.	不明	*		
	" '	0.95	132×10_3	140	3 2 5	*	ゕ	亦	*		
ļ	~ 5	1.10	>150×10-3	140	5 0.2	#	ф	不明	*		
	比較例(0.85	115×10-3	140	2 0.2	*	不明	*	* 91		

この精果からわかるとおり、HD/(HD)。が大きいはど、ブレートは近が弱いほど心臓が大きくなっている。本発明の実施がは、いずれも、緊張処理により HD/(HD)。が大きいほど、ブレートは度が弱いほど P 構造が明らかに確認され、良好な溶解性能が発卸されている。もちろん重合体 B はクリンブ変硬の内側に存在していた。一万、比較例1は緊張処理による P 構造への転移が明確でなく、このものは掩縮性能も従来公知のものとほぼ同じ

理をしたものでも 23 ~ 55 名 である。また行脱 明 5 1-8 4 9 4 4 号公報実施例 1 および 2 に 小きれ る結果では、 3 B U C の空気中で強硬処理しても Ki 飯は 1 1.7~ 5 5.0 名である。・

災施例 4. 5. 4. 5 および比較例 1

実施例1で得られた紡糸原糸を設りに示す延伸 比および延伸プレート温度で延伸した。それとと もに実施例1におけるB成分のみの未延伸糸につ いて 4no を求めた。

実施例6,7,8,9および10

A成分として、〔1〕= 0.55 のイソフタレートを5 モル彩共重合したポリエチレンテレフタレート、B成分として〔1〕= 1.10 の PBT をサイドバイサイド型に 280 Cの紡糸濃度で孔径 0.6 mmで24孔のノズルから表2 の条件で紡糸し、50d/24fの繊維を得た。なお、表2に Ana を併記した。

菱 2

;	31 Br 9 = -	" –	: • I	光 植 生			多皮	神 唐
gr i	速度 (m/min)	(で)	⊿ne	Κı	K2	K3	(9/4)	(8)
実施例6	4,5 0 0	金鱼	135×10 ⁻¹	2 3	17,6	1 5,8	3, 2	4 0
~ 1	5,000	童鱼	145×10¯³	2 4	18,2	1 7.5	9,8	3 4
~ B	6,0 9 0	150	150×10 ⁻¹	4.3	4 0,2	3 9,8	3,5	3 3
~·9	4.500	150	140×10 ⁻⁵	5 5	4 8,7	4 9,0	3,7	28
~ ID	4,500	200	140×10 ⁻¹	60	5 8,3	5 7.4	3,4	2 5

得られた繊維は表2に示される如く、本発明の 繊維はもはや延伸を必要としない重合体 B が クリ ンプ螺旋の内側にある自己捲納性複合繊維であつ これらの繊維の袖鏡状態(BL=0)と繁張状態(SL=5)について赤外線吸光分析(LR)を行ない、 $7.25cm^2$ の吸収ピークの高さを100とし、 $843cm^2$ 、 $960cm^2$ 、 $1450 \sim 1460cm^2$ および $1470cm^2$ の吸収ピークの高さを翻定した結果を表 3に示す。

表 3

	Bij		I R のピークの高さ比							
(6 71)			845~1	960cm	1450 ~ 1460cm ⁻¹	1470 <i>c</i> m	(%)			
		0	6,18	6.7 7	7, 5 9	9,25	88			
実施例	6	6	6	6	3	8,03	1 2,0	4,73	1 5.3	-
		0	5, 5 1	6.0 7	9.5 0	7.3 5	Y (3			
1	7	5	1 0,1	15.0	4,70	1 8.2	_			
	_	0	5,8 0	6.77	7.9 5	9.2 3	69			
*	8	0	5	9.0 3	1 1.5	5.0 0	1 6.2			
		9	0	6.7 8	7.0 1	5,2 5	9.93	92		
"	7	3	1 1.2	1 4,3	4.8 0	1 6.B	二			
		0	4.2 1	5,90	8,00	7.60	9 5			
1 "	10	3_	1 2,3	1 6.2	4,20	.1 8.3	<u>1 - </u>			

実施例 6 ~ 1 0 は St = 0 でも若干 A 構造が含まれており、 St = 3 とすると A 構造の結晶がかなり増加していることがわかる。なお、実施例 6

~ 10 の繊維の染着率 (Df) は 88 ~ 95 % であって良好な染色性を示した。 比較例 2

実施例1で用いたと同じ A . B 両成分をサイド
バイサイド型複合紡糸を行ない、 650 m/min で巻
取つた。 C のものを予熱ローラー 75 ℃、 プレート温度 12.0 ℃で 3.4 倍延伸した。 得られた繊維の
K・値は 8 %であり、実施例 1 と同様に St = 0 お
よび 8t = 5 の広角 X 線回折による繊維図を側定したが、いずれも α 型結晶構造であることがわかった。

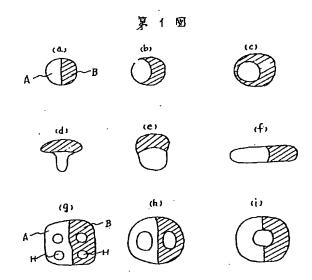
。 なお、同条件で B 成分のみを紡糸したところ、 dna は 6 6 × 1 0° で紡糸後数分で 3 %以上自発伸 長した。この繊維を 3.4 倍処伸したときの dn は 115 × 1 0° であつた。

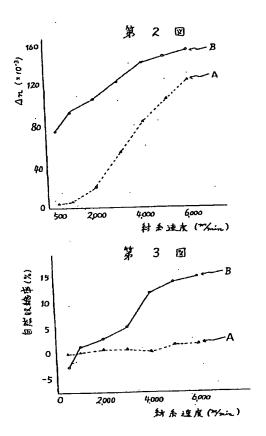
4. 図面の簡単な説明

第1図は本発明の偏心複合繊維の断面についての模式図、第2図は紡速に対応する重合体AとBの複屈折(An)変化の状態を示し、第3図は紡速に対応する重合体AとBの自然収縮率の関係を示

丰。

特許出額人 株式会社 クラレ 代 姆 人 弁理士 本 多 号





Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 57-89617

Publication Date: June 4, 1982

Application No. 55-165011

Application Date: November 24, 1980

Inventors: NAKAGAWA et al.

Applicant: Kuraray Corporation

SPECIFICATION

1. Title of the Invention: CONJUGATE FIBER AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

2. Claims

(1) A self-crimping conjugate fiber comprising a polymer A and a polymer B, both of which are mutually eccentrically arranged to provide a helically crimped structure, wherein the polymer A comprises more than 85% by weight of polyethylene terephthalate; the polymer B comprises more than 85% by weight of polytetramethylene terephthalate; the polymer B reversibly takes its crystalline structures α and β in response to the fiber undergoing relaxation and tensioning; and the polymer B is positioned in the interior of the helically crimped structure.

(2) A process for the production of a self-crimping conjugate fiber comprising a polymer A and a polymer B, both of which are mutually eccentrically arranged to provide a helically crimped structure, wherein the polymer A comprises more than 85% by weight of polyethylene terephthalate; the polymer B comprises more than 85% by weight of polytetramethylene terephthalate; the polymer B reversibly takes its crystalline structures α and β in response to the fiber undergoing relaxation and tensioning; and the polymer B is positioned in the interior of the helically crimped structure, which process comprises the steps of spinning the polymers A and B by one of composite spinning and eccentric composite spinning, wherein prior to spinning, each of the polymers A and B has an intrinsic viscosity meeting the following equations

$$0.248 z + 0.128 \le y \le 0.80$$

 $0.7 \le z \le 1.35$

where z denotes [η] of the polymer B, and y denotes the equation, y = z - x, assuming [η] of the polymer A to be x; and wherein after spinning, the polymer B has a birefringence Δn_B of 120×10^{-3} or above; and subsequently stretching the spun yarn.

(3) A process for the production of a self-crimping

conjugate fiber according to claim 2, wherein the spinning is performed at a spinning speed in the range of from 800 to 4,000 m/min, and the resultant non-stretched yarn is stretched at a stretch ratio represented by the following equation

 $0.9 \times [HD]_B \leq HD \leq 1.2 \times [HD]_B$ wherein $[HD]_B$ denotes the maximum stretch ratio of the polymer B when spun under the same conditions.

- (4) A process for the production of a self-crimping conjugate fiber according to claim 2, wherein the spinning is performed at a spinning speed in the range of from 4,000 to 10,000 m/min.
- 3. Detailed Description of the Invention

This invention relates to a polyester-type selfcrimping conjugate fiber that excels in crimping. More
particularly, the invention relates to an eccentric
conjugate fiber in which a polyethylene terephthalate-based
polymer and a polytetramethylene terephthalate-based polymer
are uniquely combined with each other.

Heretofore, intensive researches have been conducted on the eccentric composite spinning of polyethylene terephthalate-type polymers. Despite this situation, not much study has been made for conjugate fibers composed of

polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and polytetramethylene terephthalate (PBT). No satisfactory means have been yet found in enabling such conjugate fibers to sufficiently produce their properties. One example of an eccentric conjugate fiber of PET and PBT appears for instance in Japanese Examined Patent Application Publication No. 45-19108. This publication discloses that peculiar crimping can be developed by spinning such an eccentric conjugate fiber at a speed of 633 m/min and then by performing stretching up to 4,216 times, thereby placing PBT in a stable crystal form of a relaxed type (in an α structure), so that an amorphous portion is oriented more frequently by crystallization with consequent strong tendency to crimp. Here, the stable form is described as meaning that PBT retains its crystal form under all conditions other than melting and hence does not undergo changes during processing, wearing and various other treatments. On the other hand, PBT when being unstable is stated to be unsuitable for use as a highly shrinkable polymer. The thought like this would presumably be applicable to polytrimethylene terephthalate, but not to PBT; with regard to PBT, however, it is totally in disagreement with the research results according to the present inventors. The above-cited disclosure is apparently due to the insufficiency of studying PBT to the full. Moreover, Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication

No. 52-21419 teaches an eccentric conjugate fiber of PBT and PET in which PBT is positioned outwardly of the helically crimped structure. The outward positioning of PBT cannot achieve the advantages of the present invention, nor does it provide a fiber having good stretching properties.

According to the present invention, there is provided a self-crimping conjugate fiber comprising a polymer A and a polymer B, both of which are mutually eccentrically arranged to provide a helically crimped structure, wherein the polymer A comprises more than 85% by weight of polyethylene terephthalate; the polymer B comprises more than 85% by weight of polytetramethylene terephthalate; the polymer B reversibly takes its crystal structure α and β in response to the fiber undergoing relaxation and tensioning; and the polymer B is positioned in the interior of the helically crimped structure.

In this invention, the polymer A comprising more than 85% by weight of polyethylene terephthalate, and the polymer B comprising more than 85% by weight of polytetramethylene terephthalate can contain less than 15% by weight of other copolymerizable components, respectively. Suitable components to be copolymerized are selected for example from among ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, 1,4-butanediol, neopentyl glycol, cyclohexane-1,4-dimethanol, isophthalic acid, sulfoisophthalic acid, polyalkylene glycol and the

like. Each of the polymers A and B may also be incorporated with additives such as delusterants, pigments, carbon, silica and the like, antistatic improvers such as polyalkylene glycol terminated with \longrightarrow or \longrightarrow SO₃H, dodecylbenzene sulfonate and the like, flame retardants and dyeing assistants.

The crystalline structures α and β according to the present invention are decided by determining the fiber period (FP) by X-ray analysis. For example, the FP of the crystalline structure α is 11.59 Å, and the FP of the crystalline structure β is 15.07 Å as reported by H. Tadokoro et al. in "Macromolecules", vol. 9, p. 266 (1976) and "Polymer Preprints of Japan", vol. 28, p. 1958 (1979).

The term "relaxation" or "relaxed state" used herein denotes that crimping has been developed without external force applied to the fiber, whereas the term "tensioning" or "tensioned state" used herein denotes that extension has occurred by 3 to 10% from the crimp in the fiber. Repeated interaction of the two states indicates that PBT reversibly changes from the structure α to the structure β . The reversion of PBT between the structure α and the structure β does not takes place discontinuously, but in a continuous state in which the crystalline structure α becomes rich in relaxed condition, and the crystalline structure β becomes rich in tensioned condition. The crystalline structures α

and β can be qualitatively identified with ease by x-ray diffraction; a fibrous flux is first fixed to a specimen holder such that the axis of a fiber is located perpendicularly to an x-ray beam, and a fibrous diagram is photographed with a wide-angle x-ray diffraction camera provided with a flat film. On the fibrous diagram, a point of diffraction is measured at a face (104) found on a meridian. The distance (1) measured centrally from the point of diffraction on the meridian is counted from the following equations

$$1 = R \tan 2\theta$$

$$\theta = \sin^{-1} (\lambda / 2d)$$

where R denotes the distance between a specimen and a film, λ denotes the wavelength of an X-ray used, d denotes the face-to-face distance of (104), and θ denotes the Bragg angle.

It is noted that skill is required in analyzing a conjugate fiber of PBT and PET from the fibrous diagram based on an X-ray because the diffraction points between PBT and PET overlap partly with each other on that diagram.

To facilitate the comparison between the structures α and the structure β according to the present invention, infrared absorption analysis may be used. As disclosed in "Polymers" by J. M. Ward et al., vol. 18, p. 327 (1977), the absorptions induced from the crystalline structure α are

found at 752 cm⁻¹, 910 cm⁻¹ and 1,450 to 1,460 ⁻¹, while the absorptions from the crystalline structure β are found at 845 cm⁻¹, 960 cm⁻¹ and 1,470⁻¹. Thus, the changes between the structure α and the structure β may be easily ascertained by comparing the infrared absorption peaks in a relaxed state with those in a tensioned state.

In the conjugate fiber of the present invention, PBT is positioned inwardly of the helically crimped structure. Due to relaxation and tensioning, PBT causes crystal transformation between the structure α and the structure β . Namely, PBT changes to the structure β in a tensioned state in which the crimp is extended, or PBT changes to the structure α , a more stable structure, in a relaxed state in which tensioning is removed. At this time, the molecular chain shrinks by about 15%. Because these changes are reversible, the conjugate fiber of this invention is markedly superior in shrinking by virtue of its inherent mechanism that is wholly distinct from conventional ones.

The following process can be employed to produce the conjugate fiber of the present invention in which the crystalline structures reversibly change between α and β as described above.

The polymers A and B are subjected to eccentric composite spinning in conventional manner. By the term eccentric conjugate fiber used herein is meant a fiber which

is unsymmetrical about the center of gravity R as shown for example in Fig. 1, and in this figure, H in A or B denotes a hollow portion. The ratio of polymer A to polymer B is preferably in the range of from 3 : 7 to 7 : 3. Each of the polymers A and B has an intrinsic viscosity meeting the following equations

$$0.248 z + 0.128 \le y \le 0.80$$

 $0.7 \le z \le 1.35$

where x and z denote the viscosities [η] of the polymers A and B, respectively, when measured in a mixed solvent containing an equivalent amount of phenol and tetrachloroethane and in a thermostatic chamber of 30°C with an Ubbellohde viscometer, and y denotes y = z - x which means the difference between x and z. The polymer B has a birefringence Δn_B of 120×10^{-3} or above. When these requirements are satisfied, the conjugate fiber of this invention can be obtained.

In general, the viscosity $[\eta]$ of the conjugate fiber is equivalent to the average weight of the polymers A and B. The polymers A and B are difficult to determine their respective magnitudes of $[\eta]$ after the completion of spinning, and therefore, the relationship between the spinning conditions and the $[\eta]$ drops should be determined in advance by spinning individual polymers under the same spinning conditions. If the parameter y, i.e., the

difference in intrinsic viscosity between the polymers A and B, is smaller than the above equation, then a kneeing phenomenon is less likely to occur as disclosed in Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 51-84924. This phenomenon indicates that a spun yarn gets kneed at a position directly beneath a spinneret. However, the reversion between α and β according to this invention is less attainable, and this fails to provide a conjugate fiber that can exhibit good crimping upon stretching only. To obtain the conjugate fiber of this invention that gives the reversion between α and β due to relaxation and tensioning, the polymer B should have a Δn of 120 \times 10^{-3} or above. More desirably, orientation should be performed at one time or instantaneously in obtaining a substantially complete crystalline structure β , followed by relaxation. In this instance, the crystalline structure $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ becomes virtually complete in a relaxed state, thereby facilitating the reversion between α and β due to relaxation and tensioning.

In order to produce the conjugate fiber of the present invention, the spinning speed should be greater than 800 m/min. Failure to observe this speed does not provide a conjugate fiber in which the reversion between α and β easily occurs as in this invention. Spinning speeds of from 800 to 4,000 m/min have difficulty obtaining a conjugate fiber with a Δn_B of \geq 120 \times 10⁻³, and in this case,

stretching is desired. Stretching may be effected after winding up on a bobbin subsequently to spinning, or immediately after spinning. Here, the spinning speed is important, as mentioned above, in the sense that a more complete crystalline structure β can be instantaneously obtained; namely, certain spinning conditions are required which are not known in this art. They are specified to satisfy the equation, $0.9 \times [HD]_B \le HD \le 1.2 \times [HD]_B$, wherein $[HD]_B$ denotes the maximum stretch ratio, i.e., the stretch ratio up to breaking, of the polymer B when spun under the same conditions, and [HD] denotes the stretch ratio of the conjugate fiber. The above-specified stretch ratio is one in which a single fiber gets broken. When that equation is met, the crystals of the polymer B can instantaneously take an almost complete structure β . Higher spinning temperatures are preferred. Winding up may be effected after spinning or after relaxation.

In producing the conjugate fiber of the present invention, the most preferred process is designed to place the polymers A and B in eccentric formation, followed by spinning at from 4,000 to 10,000 m/min. It has hitherto been thought that when an eccentric conjugate fiber is spun at a high speed, both a polymer A and a polymer B get highly molecularly oriented as shown in Fig. 2 so that the difference in shrink between the two polymers becomes small,

inviting poor crimping and failing to obtain a sufficiently crimped fiber. In the conjugate fiber of PBT and PET according to this invention, the crystalline structure of PBT reversibly changes between α and β more speedily for the foregoing reasons. This means that as the higher the spinning speed, crimping becomes better. Fig. 3 shows the natural shrink, in a free or relaxed state after winding up, of each of PET and PBT individually spun.

PBT reveals a sharp increase in natural shrink with increasing spinning speeds, thus making a great difference with respect to PET. Hence, when PBT and PET undergo eccentric composite spinning, crimping develops only by spinning at from 2,500 m/min, providing a spinning-free self-crimping conjugate fiber at from 4,000 m/min. The natural shrink is presumed to arise from the crystalline structure β that turns into the crystalline structure α when converted to a relaxed state from a tensioned state during winding up. Higher spinning speeds bring about a more complete crystalline structure α . The more the crystalline structure α is complete, it tends to turn into the crystalline structure β upon re-relaxation depending on a stretch of 1 to 10% so that the reversion between α and β readily takes place.

The conjugate fiber of the present invention has noticeably superior crimping and dyeability. The term

superior dyeability used herein denotes that the dye fixing (Df) exceeds 60% when dyeing is performed under the conditions of dye: ordinary disperse dye (Eastman Polyester Navy Blue 3R-LSW), concentration: 5% owf, bath ratio: 1 : 50, temperature: 98°C and time: 60 min.

Surprisingly, the conjugate fiber of PET and PBT according to this invention is of a self-crimping nature without the need for stretching at a spinning speed of 4,000 m/min or higher and is greatly dyeable under atmospheric pressure. Further, this crimping results from the reversion of PBT between the structure α and the structure β so that the conjugate fiber exhibits great elastic recovery. Prior to winding up, heating may be effected with godet rolls or a plate at from room temperature to the melting points of the polymers. This contributes to further improvement in crimping.

The conjugate fiber according to the present invention may be used in filament, staple or fiber form, and it is suitably useful for woven clothing, knitted clothing, carpet, bedding and the like.

The following examples are given to further illustrate the present invention.

Example 1

With the use of PET of $[\eta]$ = 0.53 as a component A and PBT of $[\eta]$ = 1.2 as a component B, composite spinning was

performed in side-by-side arrangement in a ratio of 1:1, at a temperature of 275°C and at a spinning speed of 1,200 m/min, whereby a non-stretched yarn of 150 d/24 f was obtained. On the other hand, the component B alone was spun under the same spinning conditions, thereby obtaining a non-stretched yarn of 150 d/24 f which was measured as to the maximum stretch ratio [HD]_B and Δn_B . [HD]_B was 2.8 and Δn_B 80 × 10⁻³. When this non-stretched yarn was stretched immediately before breaking, Δn of [HD]_B = 2.8 was determined to be 140 × 10⁻³. Subsequently, the above composite-spun non-stretched yarn was stretched at a stretch ratio of 2.8 (namely, [HD] = [HD]_B), at a preheating temperature of 78°C and at a plate temperature of 140°C.

Evaluation was made of the resultant fiber for crimping $(K_1,\ K_2\ and\ K_3)$ as given below.

A hank of 5,000 d (one side: 2,500 d) was formed at a tension of 0.05 g/d. An initial load of 5 g was then applied to the hank, and the length l_0 of the hank after a lapse of 5 minutes. The hank was slightly twisted with the initial load maintained and then wetted with water, followed by immersion in a hot water of 90°C for 30 minutes. Then, the initial load was removed and air-dried in a suspended posture. The length l_1 of the hank was measured with an initial load of 5 g applied. Thereafter, the length l_2 of the hank was measured upon lapse of 30 seconds after a main

load of 500 g was applied. After removal of the main load, an initial load was applied, and the length l_3 of the hank was measured upon lapse of 50 seconds. A fatigue load of 3,500 g was applied for 30 seconds and then removed, the hank was let to stand for 5 minutes with an initial load applied, followed by measurement of the length l_4 of the hank. K_1 , K_2 and K_3 are represented by the following equations, respectively.

crimp extension K_1 (%) = $l_2 - l_1/l_2 \times 100$ crimp recovery K_2 (%) = $l_2 - l_3/l_2 \times 100$ crimp fastness K_3 (%) = $l_2 - l_4/l_2 \times 100$

The measurements were K_1 = 46.0%, K_2 = 44.5% and K_3 = 43.9%. The polymer B was found to be present in the interior of the helically crimped structure. Surprisingly high crimping was attained as a stretched yarn composed of a conjugate fiber.

To facilitate comparison, conventional data are provided. With regard to VII-C in Example 7 of Japanese Examined Patent Application Publication No. 43-1911108, a conjugate fiber of PBT and PET shows a crimping development (CD) of as low as 19% that corresponds to K₁. Even with annealing, CD is from 23 to 33%. According to the results disclosed in Examples 1 and 2 of Japanese Examined Patent Application Publication No. 51-84924, K₂ is from 11.7 to 33.0% even upon relaxation at 380°C in the atmosphere.

The conjugated fiber of this invention was stretched to such an extent that its crimp could be stretched (extension: St = 0%), and a fibrous pattern was obtained as a fibrous flux by wide-angle x-ray diffraction. Two points of diffraction (104) were confirmed on a meridian, one being induced from a crystalline structure α and the other from a crystalline structure β . Then, this specimen was stretched by 5% (St = 5%) and likewise photographed as such, thereby obtaining a fibrous pattern. No crystalline structure α -induced point of diffraction (104) was found, whereas a crystalline structure β -induced point of diffraction (104) was intensely confirmed.

Examples 2 to 5 and Comparative Example 1

The spun base yarn obtained in Example 1 was stretched with the stretch ratios and plate temperatures tabulated in Table 1. Further, measurement was made for Δn_B of the non-stretched yarn of the component B prepared in Example 1.

Table 1

	Stretch ratio	ΔnB	Plate temp.	К1 .	Strength	at diffracti X-ray d	on point of (104) in iagram		
	HD/[HD] _B		(°C)	(ફ)	St = 0		St = 5		
					α structure	β structure	a structure	β structure	
Ex. 2	1.00	150 × 10 ⁻³	120	42.3	average	average	small	large	
Ex. 3	1.00	140 × 10 ⁻³	200	60.9	large	small	unknown	large	
Ex. 4	0.95	135 × 10 ⁻³	140	32.5	large	small	small	large	
Ex. 5	1.10	>150 × 10 ⁻³	140	50.2	average	average	unknown	large	
Comp. Ex. 1	0.85	115 × 10 ⁻²	140	20.2	large	unknown	large	unknown	

As is evident from Table 1, the K_1 value is larger, the larger $HD/[HD]_B$ and the higher the plate temperature. In each of Examples 2 to 5, the crystalline structure β has been clearly ascertained, the larger $HD/[HD]_B$ due to tensioning and the higher the plate temperature so that good crimping development can be attained. The polymer B has of course been present in the interior of the helically crimped structure. Comparative Example 1 failed to clearly reveal a change to a crystalline structure β that arises from tensioning. The level of crimping was similar to those commonly known.

Examples 6 to 10

Polyethylene terephthalate of $[\eta]$ = 0.55 copolymerized with 5% by mol of isophthalate, as a component A, and PBT of $[\eta]$ = 1.10 as a component B were spun, in side-by-side formation, at a spinning temperature of 280°C and under the conditions of Table 2, from a nozzle provided with 24 holes of 0.6 mm in diameter. Δn_B values are also tabulated in Table 2.

Table 2

Example	Take-	off roll	ΔnB	Crimping			Strength	Extension	
	Speed (m/min)	Temp.		K ₁	K ₂	К3	(g/d)	(8)	
Ex. 6	4.500	Room temp.	135 × 10 ⁻³	23	17.6	16.8	3.2	40	
Ex. 7	5.000	Room temp.	145 × 10 ⁻³	24	18.2	17.5	3.8	34	
Ex. 8	6.000	150	150 × 10 ⁻³	43	40.2	39.8	3.5	33	
Ex. 9	4.500	150	140 × 10 ⁻³	55	48.7	49.0	3.7	28	
Ex. 10	4.500	200	140 × 10 ⁻³	60	58.3	57.4	3.4	25	

As is clear from Table 2, each of the conjugated fibers of this invention has been found to be of a stretch-free self-crimping in nature. The polymer B is present in the interior of the helically crimped structure.

Each such fiber was analyzed in respect of a relaxed state (St = 0) and a tensioned state (St = 3) by infrared absorption spectrophotometry (IR). With the height of absorption peak at 725 cm $^{-1}$ taken as 100, measurement was made for the heights of absorption peaks at 843 cm $^{-1}$, 960 cm $^{-1}$ and 1450 to 1460 cm $^{-1}$ with the results tabulated in Table 3.

Table 3

Example	St (%)	Ratio of IR absorption peak						
		843 cm ⁻¹	960 cm ⁻¹	1450 - 1460 cm ⁻¹	1470 cm ⁻¹	(%)		
Ex. 6	. 0	6.18	6.77	7.59	9.23	88		
	3	8.03	12.0	4.73	15.3	-		
Ex. 7	0	5.31	6.07	9.30	7.35	90		
	3	10.1	15.0	4.70	18.2			
Ex. 8	0	58.0	6.77	7.95	9.23	89		
ļ	3	90.3	11.5	5.00	16.2			
Ex. 9	0	6.78	7.01	5.25	9.93	92		
	3	11.2	14.3	4.80	16.8			
Ex. 10	0	4.21	5.90	8.00	7.60	95		
.	3	12.3	16.2	4.20	18.3	-		

Examples 6 to 10 contain a slight amount of a crystalline structure β even at St = 0, and St = 3 shows a considerable increase in such a structure. In Examples 6 to

10, good dyeability is obtained with a dye fixing (Df) of 88 to 95%.

Comparative Example 2

The same polymers as in Example 1, the polymers A and B, were subjected to composite spinning in side-by-side formation, followed by winding up at 650 m/min. Stretching was effected 3.4 times at a preheater temperature of 75°C and at a plate temperature of 120°C. The resultant fiber had a K_1 value of 8%. In the same manner as in Example 1, a fibrous diagram based on wide-angle x-ray diffraction was determined at St = 0 and St = 5. All points of diffraction were of a crystalline structure α .

The component B alone was spun under the same conditions. The spun yarn revealed a Δn_B of 68×10^{-3} and suffered a natural shrink of more than 3% in several minutes after spinning. The fiber was stretched 3.4 times with a Δn of 115×10^{-2} .

4. Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a schematic cross-sectional view of the conjugate fiber according to the present invention; Fig. 2 represents the relationship between the spinning speed and the birefringence (Δn) of each of the polymers A and B; and Fig. 3 represents the relationship between the spinning speed and the natural shrink of each of the polymers A and B.

Fig. 1

